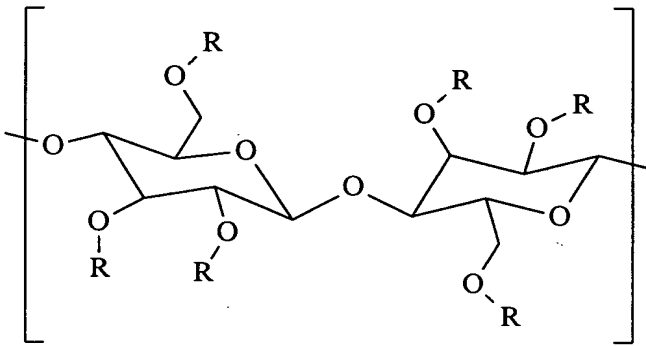


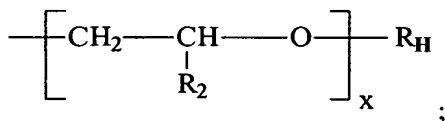
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (*Cancelled*)

12. (*Currently amended*) A detergent composition or component comprising a particulate according to claim 10 wherein the hydrophobically modified cellulosic material, wherein at least 80% of said particulate material has a particle size of below 1000 microns, said material comprising ~~comprises~~ polymers of the formula



wherein each R is selected from the group consisting of R₂, R_C, and



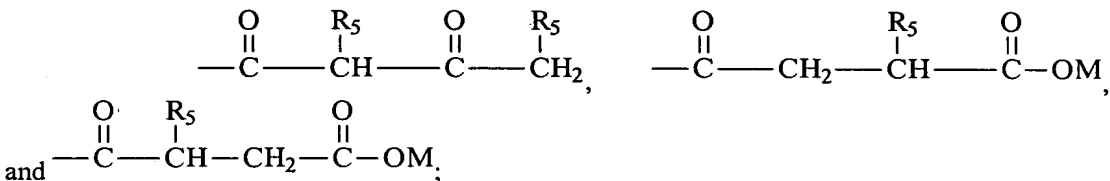
wherein:

- each R₂ is independently selected from the group consisting of H and C₁-C₄ alkyl;

- each R_C is $\text{---}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{---}\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}\text{C}\text{---}\text{OZ}$,

wherein each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of M, R₂, R_C, and R_H;

- each R_H is independently selected from the group consisting of C₅-C₂₀ alkyl, C₅-C₇ cycloalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy-2-hydroxyalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryloxy-2-hydroxyalkyl, (R₄)₂N-alkyl, (R₄)₂N-2-hydroxyalkyl, (R₄)₃N-alkyl, (R₄)₃N-2-hydroxyalkyl, C₆-C₁₂ aryloxy-2-hydroxyalkyl,



- each R₄ is independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, C₅-C₇ cycloalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, piperidinoalkyl, morpholinoalkyl, cycloalkylaminoalkyl and hydroxyalkyl;

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- each R₅ is independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, C₅-C₇ cycloalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, (R₄)₂N-alkyl, and (R₄)₃N-alkyl;

wherein:

M is a suitable cation[[,]] preferably selected from the group consisting of Na, K, 1/2Ca, and 1/2Mg;

each x is from 0 to about 5;

each y is from about 1 to about 5; and

provided that:

- the Degree of Substitution for group R_H is between about 0.001 and 0.1;
- the Degree of Substitution for group R_C wherein Z is H or M is between about 0.2 and 2.0;
- if any R_H bears a positive charge, it is balanced by a suitable anion; and
- two R₄'s on the same nitrogen can together form a ring structure selected from the group consisting of piperidine and morpholine.

13. (Currently amended) A composition or component according to claim 12, wherein each R_H is independently selected from the group consisting of C₅-C₂₀ alkyl, C₅-C₇ cycloalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy-2-hydroxyalkyl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryloxy-2-hydroxyalkyl, (R₄)₂N-alkyl, (R₄)₂N-2-hydroxyalkyl, (R₄)₃N-alkyl, (R₄)₃N-2-hydroxyalkyl, and C₆-C₁₂ aryloxy-2-hydroxyalkyl, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Previously presented) A composition or component according to claim 12, wherein each R_H

is independently selected from the group consisting of

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \quad \text{R}_5 \quad \text{O} \quad \text{R}_5 \\ \parallel \quad | \quad \parallel \quad | \\ -\text{C}-\text{CH}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2 \\ \parallel \quad | \quad \parallel \quad | \\ \text{O} \quad \text{R}_5 \quad \text{O} \quad \text{R}_5 \\ \parallel \quad | \quad \parallel \quad | \\ -\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}-\text{C}-\text{OM}, \text{ and } -\text{C}-\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}-\text{OM} \end{array}$$

B³

15. (Currently amended) A detergent component or composition according to claim 12 wherein the hydrophobically modified cellulosic material is present in a pre-formed particle comprising a carrier material and/or a surfactant, and wherein at least 80% of the material has a particle size of below 500 microns.

16. (Previously presented) A detergent component or composition according to claim 15 wherein the preformed particle is an agglomerate, comprising one or more carrier materials selected from

the group consisting of inorganic salts, silicates, aluminosilicates and mixtures thereof and an anionic and/or nonionic surfactant.

17. (*Previously presented*) A detergent component or composition according to claim 15, wherein the preformed particle is a spray dried blown powder particle, comprising one or more carrier materials selected from the group consisting of inorganic salts, silicates, aluminosilicates and mixtures thereof and an anionic and/or nonionic surfactant.

18. (*Currently amended*) A detergent component or composition according to claim 12 ~~10~~ wherein the hydrophobically modified cellulosic material is in the form of a dry-add particle.